



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/810,979

Confirmation No.: 9629

Applicants: Bonaventura et al.

Customer No.: 24041

Filed: March 26, 2004

For: SHIELDED-ERGONOMIC MICROSCOPE STAGES

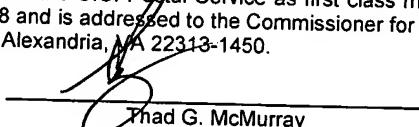
TC/Art Unit: 2872

Examiner: Lavarias, Arnel C.

Docket No.: LEAP:133US

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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Honorable Sir:

This is a reply to the Office Action dated August 1, 2006 regarding the above-identified patent application. Claims 1-34 are pending in the application. Currently, Claims 2, 5-7, 17, 19, 22, 23 and 26-34 have been withdrawn from consideration and Claims 1, 3, 4, 8-16, 20, 21, 24 and 25 have been rejected.

The Current Status of the Claims is reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

Appendix begins after page 13 of this paper.